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A Full and True ACCOUNT of the

Penitent BEHAVIOUR, Last Dying Words, & Execution OF Mr. Edmund Allen, Gent.

Who was Condemned at the *Sessions-House* in the *Old Baily*, for Abusing his Loving and Tender VVife, by Cruelly Beating her several Times with a *Bull's* Pizzle; and, last of all, most Barbarously and Inhumanely Poysoning of her, by giving her *White Mercury*, which he unhappily mixt with *Rasberry Gelly*.

With a RELATION of

The REPRIEVE of Mr. *Richard Buttler*, who was likewise Order'd to be Executed with the said *Allen*; On *Friday*, the 19*th* of this Instant *July*, 1695. VVith Mr. *Allen's* last VVords, *&c.*

IT is sad to consider, that no *Fatal Examples* of the JUSTICE of GOD and Man can deter some sort of People from Rushing on them to their Destruction: Not only, to the certain Destruction of their Bodies, as being cut off from the Society of Men, but to the great and eminent *Hazard* of their Pretious and Immortal Souls, which are more Valuable than a Thousand Worlds; Our Blessed Saviour tell us, *There's nothing can be given in Exchange for a Soul, when lost.* Then how cautious ought we to be, by all ways of *Virtue* and *Religion*, to secure so *Inestimable* a *Jewel*: And since the *Time* that is here given us to spend well, is the *Talent* we are to *Improve* to make us everlastingly Happy; or, by not *Improveing* it Miserable for ever, we ought to be *Circumspect* about it.

This may suffice for Admonition and Caution; but now we come nearer to the Purpose,

EDMUND ALLEN, was well Educated and of good Parentage; but gave himself over, when he came to Years to such Company, as made him for the future forget himself, in pursuing those *Virtuous Ways* he was brought up to. Before he had Settled himself well in the World, he fell into the Company of Lewd-Women; yet, being at last weary of such a proffligate Course of Life; or else wanting Mony to Support it, he bethought himself of *Marriage*, and indeed in this he had the good Fortune to get the Good-Will of one that brought him a considerable Portion, (some say about Fifteen-Hundred Pounds present, and more upon the Death of Relations.) A while they lived together quietly; but some Lewd-Women finding an Oppurtunity to draw him off and set him against her; his (as we may truly term it) Dissembled *Love* turned into Hatred; he used her very grievously, and because he thought this ill Usage not Affliction enough to a *Tender-Heart*, having spent most of the Mony he had with her, and willing to live still in *Splendour*, he reported himself a Widower, and going to a Young-Gentlewoman one *Frances Artis*, he so insinuated himself into her Favour, that she had a good liking of him, without the Consent of her Friends, and rashly gave herself away, with a considerable Fortune; so that it is agreed on he had 3000*l.* by his Wives and his Relations: But, the matter being discovered he was Prosecuted at *Suffolk Assizes* for *Poligamy* or *Marrying a second Wife, the former being Alive*; where he escap'd by his *Clergy*; but this was no Warning to this to be deplored Sinner, for, being desirous to proceed further in the *State of Matrimony*, he beat the said *Frances Allen*, as now we must call her frequently, in a most miserable Manner, sometimes with a *Bull's-Pizzle*, at other times with a *Horse-Whip*; and one time, by this cursed means, making her Miscarry, he would not suffer those Women that offered their Neighbourly Assistance to come near her in her doleful Condition. But her Heart not breaking with such violent Usage, as, it is thought, he expected it would; he considered of other more destructive Ways, for, comeing home from some Lewd Women, (where it is supposed this poor Innocent Creatures Destruction was Plotted) he seemed more Kind than usual, which the good Natured Woman taking to

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be real, and that, as he told her, he had Repented him of his former Follies and Extravagancies, and intended to turn a good Husband; ſhe ſeemed Over-joyed at the ſuppoſed *Reformation*; but alaſs, it proved Fatal to her, for treating her with ſome *Rasberry-Gelly*, or *Cakes*, he treacherouſly mixed Poiſon, ſuppoſed to be *Sublimated Mercury*, in them; which ſoon after put her into a violent Heat, and flying to her Brain, cauſed Diſ-reſt and Uneaſineſs, of which ſhe mightily complaining, he pretending to be very Officious, immediately fetched a Doſe of *Opium*, which finiſhed the wicked deſign of her Death; though, being taxed, he ſaid it was only *Poppy-Water* he gave her. This, with many other Circumſtances relating to the *Murther of his Wife*, being proved againſt him at the *Old-Baily*, and he making but a ſlender Defence for himſelf was found Guilty of wilful *Murther*; and on the *6th.* Inſtant received *Sentence of Death.*

Being return'd to *Newgate*, he grew very Melancholy: His Thoughts were taken up with Sadneſs, and a deep Reflection on his former mis-ſpent Life. As ſoon as he was in the Priſon he Retired himſelf as much as the Conveniency would permit; ſome of his Friends came to him, adviſing him, *To betake himſelf to a ſerious Repentance; to humble himſelf before God, for his many Sins; and to Implore Pardon and Forgiveneſs for them; not to bear himſelf up with hopes of Life in this World, ſeeing it was uncertain, but to uſe the Time allowed him in a ſincere Repentance, to waſh off the Stains that polluted his Soul.* Theſe, and the like Perſwaſions, touched his Conſcience with Remorſe, and drew Tears from his Eyes, ſo that he deſired them to, *Pray for him, That God in his infinite Mercy would conſider him, a Poor, Sinful Creature, whoſe many Sins had provoked him, in Juſtice, to bring him to this perril of Death, Shame, and Diſgrace*; Praying by himſelf, and deſiring to be prayed for, which was accordingly perform'd: The Miniſters that viſited him, deſiring him to have in his Mind the Words of the Prophet *David, viz. From Blood Guiltineſs Deliver me O God!* He Confeſſed his Sins were very great and grieveous, Imploring God, in this his great Extremity, not to lay them to his Charge, but to take away his ſtony Heart, and give him a Heart of Fleſh, that he might be touched with a ſenſe of his Rebellion againſt him, in breaking his Commandments, and ſining againſt that Grace that was once given him, to lead him into the way of all Truth and upright Walking in this his Pilgrimage on Earth. On the Two *Sabbath Days* that happened during his Reſpite he behaved himſelf with extraordinary Devotion, being very attentive to the Expreſſions of *the Promiſes of God, in Mercies offered by God to poor Repenting Sinners.* Yet, notwithſtanding this, at ſome times flattered himſelf with Hopes of Life; eſpecially when he found he was Reprieved for Seven Days.

As for *Richard Butler*, who went with him, in Order to his Execution, he, to outward Appearance, ſeem'd not in the leaſt Penitent, having, I ſuppoſe, ſome Hopes of a *Reprieve*, or *Pardon*: But from *Newgate* to *Knibbs's* Pound (being near that Place where he received a *Reprieve*) he all along bore a Chearful Countenance; ſpeaking freely to all the Spectators, and often bitterly inveighing the Perſon, who ſwore againſt him, *&c.*

But, to return to Mr. *Allen*: On *Friday*, the *19th.* Inſtant, he was conveyed privately in a Coach to *Tyburn*; where there was a great deal of Aſſiduity uſed, as to his Eternal Concerns; not only by the Reverend Ordinary; but alſo, by another moſt Reverend Divine: After he was Tyed up in the Cart, he greatly bewailed his former miſpent Life; deſiring others to be warned, by his unhappy end: He Prayed, and was Prayed with; and according to all outward Appearance, made a very Penitent End; tho' he had lived a Wicked Life; ſo the Cart being drawn away, his Soul was committed to the Hands of his Merciful Creator and Redeemer: Whoſe ways with Mankind are Unſearchable; and whoſe Mercies towards Penitent Sinners are Unlimited.

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